

COST ESTIMATE RATES OVERVIEW

3940

(No.31 October 2014)

The main purpose of cost estimate rates and the Cost Estimating Program is to provide early projection of the amounts spent in extended attack wildland fire suppression and that may be charged against the spending authority in the Emergency Fund. Besides estimating the costs of fire suppression, the rates are effective in estimating the costs of response to other incidents, which may or may not be charged against the Emergency Fund, such as floods, mud slides, and earthquakes.

Cost estimate rates are not actual costs and are not billing rates. The estimate rates are developed using the average costs of personnel and equipment resources used on similar incidents in the past. Estimated costs are of temporary value until financial documents, records, and invoices are received.

COST ESTIMATE RATES

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The current year estimate rates are listed in worksheets of an MS Excel workbook named **Cost Estimate Report – 20___.xlsx**. The workbook can be found on the CAL FIRE Transfer Server. From the [Start] button, click Run..., then enter [\\Transfer\Transfer](#), click OK. Copy the **Cost Estimating Tools 2014** folder, and paste it to your computer.

In the near future, you may find the report form on the calfireweb Intranet pages at Fire Protection/Incident Management Teams/Forms and Templates. You will also be able to find the report form at calfireweb/Management Services/Fiscal Services/Incident Finance Committee.

[\(see Handbook Table of Contents\)](#)

[\(see Forms or Form Samples\)](#)

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